

FARRER PRIMARY SCHOOL



WHAT IS Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Bring Your Own Device is a program that has been running at Farrer Primary School since 2015 that allows students to bring a device from home to support their learning.

Students bring their device to school and have access to a broad range of learning content stored on the cloud, both in and out of the classroom, enabling “any time, any place” learning. BYOD is about bringing the classroom to the student and not limiting them to a single path of learning and a single pace of working. Students are also able to interact with a wide suite of ICT based learning tools and knowledge that is simply not possible in the traditional classroom. Learning can become more student centred.

BYOC @ FARRER 2024

In 2018 we moved to BYOC (Bring your own Chromebook). To ensure that all devices purchased by families will connect to our school wireless network we recommend that students use the same device across the school as much as is practicable. Devices other than Chromebooks can experience connection issues.

For this reason, we have elected to continue to promote our Bring Your Own Chromebook (BYOC) model to ensure that they are compatible with the learning and teaching programs available at our school.

Information is available from the Directorate's [Learn, Anywhere: ICT for Students](#) page that provides pertinent advice on the suitability of a device to connect to the school's WiFi network.

As part of our BYOC initiative, we will endeavour to support families in selecting the type of device that they elect to purchase. We openly welcome all community members to speak with our ICT coordinator to determine which is the best option for their child's learning needs with technology.

TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS

Using a device that meets the following specifications means that:

- **Learning** — use of personal devices help provide a student-centred, personalised learning experience for students.
- **Transitioning** — student learning is flexible, moving between home and school smoothly. Students want to bring their own devices to school and are often experts in how to use them.
- **Teaching** — teachers will collaborate with their students and use personal devices as tools that develop student information and communication technology literacy skills—seeking, analysing, evaluating, problem solving, decision making, presenting and communicating.



WHAT WILL STUDENTS DO WITH THE DEVICE IN CLASS?

The 'Digital Backpack' is our online portal which provides safe and secure access to a range of online learning platforms for students.

The Digital Backpack

- can be accessed from any device with a modern internet browser at school, home, anywhere;
- is an easy way for students to access all of our online learning services with just a single SchoolsNET username and password; and
- is hosted and protected by secure ACT Government identity and access management systems.

Students will be accessing information on the internet and using online learning portals to provide resources such as subject specific websites, videos, podcasts and documents to enhance and extend their own learning. Currently students, teachers and parents are collaborating around student learning utilising the simple to use but powerful productivity platform, *Google Apps for Education* (GAFE). This platform is accessible anywhere at any time with an internet connection.

We ask that students bring their BYOC device to school from the following dates:

Year 6 - Monday Week 3 Term 1 2024 – 12 February

Year 5 - Monday Week 4 Term 1 2024 – 19 February

Year 4 - Monday Week 5 Term 1 2024 – 26 February

BYOC devices are not required in the classroom until the above dates.

DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS - Chromebook

- **Wireless connectivity** – device should support either 802.11ac or 802.11abgn Wi-Fi
- **Screen size** – at least 10 inches diagonally
- **Memory** – 2GB of RAM and there is no minimum of internal storage as all student work will be saved into their Google Drive
- **Battery life** – battery should last 6 hours with charging
- **External keyboard is essential**

SOFTWARE AND APPLICATIONS

Suggested software and Operating Systems:

- Chrome OS Version 52 or above
- Antivirus software
- Google Chrome web browser

STUDENT AND FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY

Students and families must ensure their devices are safe and secure at all times, as the school is not liable for lost, damaged or stolen devices. It is also the student's responsibility to ensure they bring their device fully charged to school each day. The school does not have a supply of spare devices for students who may forget to bring or charge their device. Students will be provided with a tub where devices can be stored during the day when not in use in the classroom.

MISUSE OF DEVICE DURING SCHOOL HOURS

All internet access at Farrer Primary School is filtered and students are prohibited from connecting to non-school networks at school. Students must comply with the Education Directorate and School policies while at school and connected to the wireless network.

Farrer Primary School has an [ICT Procedures document](#) and an [Acceptable use of ICT for students](#) document which students will learn about in class. This is to then be signed by students and their families and returned to the school.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Other things to consider include a carry case, USB mouse and the device's weight. Some school bags may have a space specifically for a device, if not, families may need to purchase a case for the device. The device's weight should be taken into consideration as school bags can become quite heavy. Try to aim for a device that weighs two kilograms or less. An external USB mouse can make using a non-touch screen device more intuitive.

INSURANCE

Students are responsible for the care of their device while at school. We recommend you check your insurance policies to ensure they cover devices away from home and what you may be liable for in the case of damage to the device.

ERGONOMICS IN THE CLASSROOM

Teachers encourage students to adopt appropriate posture and use of devices when working at desks. Students will regularly access programs that focus on developing their touch typing skills and the ergonomics associated with this. Taking regular movement breaks when using devices for extended time periods (upwards of approximately an hour of uninterrupted keyboard use) is also encouraged when using any type of technology.